Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 11775 120942Z

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ACTION EA-14

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TAGS: PINT, PFOR, JA, KS

SUBJECT: DIET DEBATE OF KIM CASE - SEPTEMBER 11

SUMMARY: UPPER HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND LOWER HOUSE JUDICIARY AND LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SESSIONS SEPTEMBER 11 CONTINUED TO FOCUS SHARPLY ON KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN UPPER HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FONMIN OHIRA, RESPONDING TO POINTED QUESTION BY SANSHICHI HANYU (JSP), STATED THAT GOJ HANDLING OF KIM CASE NOT RELATED IN ANY WAY TO FORTHCOMING UNGA OR PRIMIN TANAKA OCTOBER VISIT TO EUROPE AND SOVIET UNION. HOWEVER, OHIRA SAID GOJ COULD NOT WAIT INDEFINITELY FOR REACTION BY ROKG AND WOULD HAVE NO OTHER COURSE BUT TO MAKE OWN DECISION ON BASIS OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF CASE. IN ADDITION, OHIRA SAID THAT JAPAN WOULD HAVE TO TAKE INDEPENDENT ACTION IN EVENT THAT CONTRADICTORY RESULTS ARE OBTAINED BY SEPARATE JAPANESE AND KOREAN INVESTIGATIONS; AND THAT KIM INCIDENT COULD NO BE RESOLVED WITHOUT LEARNING WHOLE TRUTH, ACCORDING TO PRESS THIS OHIRA REPLY SEEMED TO RULE OUT POSSIBILITY OF PURELY POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. EXPRESSION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 11775 120942Z

OF CONCERN BY OHIRA ABOUT POSSIBLE ADVERSE IMPACT ON UNGA

DEBATE OF KOREAN QUESTION IF KIM CASE REMAINS UNRESOLVED WAS INTERPRETED BY PRESS AS STRONG HINT THAT GOJ WISHES TO ESTABLISH FIRM PROSPECT FOR RESOLUTION OF ISSUE PRIOR TO FONMIN DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK OCTOBER 23.

- 2. IN RESPONSE TO FURTHER QUESTIONS, OHIRA STATED THAT PRINCIPLE OF DIPLOMACY IS TO ASSOCIATE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES ON BASIS OF MUTUAL TRUST AND COURTESY, REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL, SOCIAL OR IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES. HOWEVER, EXPRESSING DISSATISFACTION WITH HARD STAND TAKEN BY ROKG, OHIRA NOTED WITH REGRET THAT SOUTH KOREANS DO NOT ENJOY FREEDOM OF SPEECH.
- 3. SHIZUE KATO (JSP) URGED GOJ TO REQUEST ROKG TO PERMIT EARLY REOPENING OF YOMIURI BUREAU IN SEOUL. OHIRA SAID THAT GOJ WOULD DO SO, IF AND WHEN FACTS OF KIM CASE ARE FOUND TO SUBSTANTIATE OFFENDING YOMIURI REPORT FROM SEOUL THT LED TO EXPLUSION, I.E., THT HIGH-LEVEL ROKG SOURCE CONFIRMED CONFIDENTIALLY THAT KCIA INVOLVED IN KIM ABDUCTION.
- 4. ALSO IN UPPER HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SESSION CHIKARA HOSHING (JCP) CHARGED THAT ROK EMBASSY TOKYO MINISTER KIM CHAE-KWON ADMITTED IN LETTER WRITTEN TO KOREAN RESIDENT OF JAPAN IN MAY 1971 THAT ROK EMBASSY HAS BUGGED PEOPLE CLOSE TO KIM TAE-CHUNG AS PART OF ITS DUTIES FOR REASONS OF SECURITY. HOSHING PRESENTED MOFA COPY OF JAPANESE TRANSLATION OF ALLEGED LETTER. MOFA TREATY BUREAU DIRGEN NOBUO MATSUNAGA STATED THAT IT WOULD BE QTE INAPPROPRIATE UNQTE FOR ROK DIPLOMAT TO EMPLOY BUGGING DEVICE IN JAPAN AGAINST OPPONENTS OF ROK REGIME.
- 5. RESPONDING TO QUESTION BY SEIICHI INABA (JSP) IN LOWER HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SESSION, MINJUSTICE ISAJI TANAKA SAID THAT JAPANESE INVESTIGATION OF KIM CASE WOULD LAY STRESS ON PROVING WHETHER ROKG AGENCY CONDUCTED ABDUCTION AS ACT PURSUANT TO OFFICIAL DUTIES. IF THIS PROVED, MINJUSTICE SAID, GOJ WOULD RESOLVE TO MAKE IMPORTANT DECISION. MINJUSTICE DENIED THAT GOJ WOULD TRY TO HUSHUP CASE.
- 6. IN LOWER HOUSE LOCAL AUTONOMY COMMITTEE SESSION SAME DAY, NATIONAL SAFETY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN MASUMI ESAKI STATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 TOKYO 11775 120942Z

BELIEF THAT ROK WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO GET BY WITH KNOW-NOTHING POSE ABOUT CASE IN VIEW OF GOODWILL AND FRIENDSHIP WHICH HAVE MARKED JAPAN-ROK RELATIONS UP TO NOW. ESAKI ADDED THAT GOJ LOOKS TO GOOD SENSE OF ROK TO RESOLVE QUESTION WHETHER JAPANESE SOVEREIGNTY VIOLATED.

7. ELSEWHERE, PRESS REPORTED DEPARTURE FROM JAPAN MONDAY OF VICE CONSUL PARK SUNG-IL, ASSIGNED TO ROK CONSULATE

GENERAL IN OSAKA. LATEST DEPARTURE RAISES TO FOURTEEN THE NUMBER OF ROK DIPLOMATS WHO HAVE DEPARTED JAPAN SUDDENLY SINCE KIM CASE BROKE.

8. JSP TUESDAY SUBMITTED DRAFT RESOLUTION (TOKYO 11727) TO LOWER HOUSE URGING GOJ ACTION TO SECURE EARLY RETURN TO JAPAN BY KIM TAE-CHUNG, AND ASSURE HIS LIFE AND SAFETY. INGERSOLL

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